6th September 1928]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No scheme has yet been submitted."

Mr. Basheer Ahmed Sayeed :—" Are there any rules under the consideration of the Government of Madras ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No such proposal is before the Government. It is clearly stated in the answer given there."

Introduction of Kanarese as the court language in Nilgiris district.

* 196 Q.—Mr. K. R. Karant : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are aware that the Badaga, Kurumba, Kota and Toda languages spoken in the district of Nilgiris are dialects of Kanarese (vide Linguistic Survey of India, Volume IV) ;

(*b*) whether they are aware that according to the census of 1921 out of a total population of 126,519 in the district the number speaking Kanarese and the aforesaid dialects is 60,621 whilst the Tamil-speaking population which is mostly immigrant is but 39,032 ; and

(*c*) if so, why Kanarese is not the language of the law courts and the schools, whilst Tamil is ?

A.—(*a*) Government are aware that such an opinion is held regarding Badaga and Kurumba. They have not heard before that Thoda or Kota were supposed to have any affinity to Kanarese.

(*b*) From the Census Report of Madras for 1921, the numbers of persons speaking Kanarese and 'other languages' are 14,753 and 46,090 respectively. The total is 60,843 which is much the same figure as that quoted in the question.

(*c*) As regards the Law Courts the present arrangement so far as the Government is aware best suits the convenience of the majority of the litigants : at all events no complaints on the subject have been received. As regards schools the rules provide for instructions being given in the vernacular of the pupils wherever this is practicable.

Mr. K. R. Karant :—" In view of the statistics given in answer to this question, may I ask the hon. the Law Member whether he will consider this question of introducing Kanarese language in law courts and schools ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. Krishnan Nayar :—" No, Sir, there was no special representation whatsoever from the people of the district."

Labour

Tour of the Labour Commissioner in June last.

* 197 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Commissioner of Labour left Madras on tour in June or July this year ; and

(*b*) whether at that time labour troubles and strikes seemed imminent in some of the textile mills in Madras ?